

Mary Scott
Cork GRAND OPERA Group

Seventh Season Presentation

Patricia O'Keeffe
Mrs. Fred

★
RIGOLLETTO

Joanna Peters

PROGRAMME

William
Jack Hark ★

Harold Hark

PALACE THEATRE, CORK
Week commencing October 27th, 1958

Kenneth Macdonald

CORK GRAND OPERA GROUP

(FOUNDED 1952)

Previous Presentations

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|--|---|
| <i>First Season</i> 1953 — <i>Summer</i> | "MARITANA" at Coliseum Theatre, Cork, and City Theatre, Limerick. |
| <i>Second Season</i> 1954 — <i>Spring</i> | "LA TRAVIATA" and "RIGOLETTO" at Cork Opera House. |
| <i>Third Season</i> 1954 — <i>Winter</i> | "IL TROVATORE" and "LUCIA di LAMMERMOOR" at Cork Opera House. |
| <i>Fourth Season</i> 1955 — <i>Winter</i> | "AIDA" and "THE BARBER OF SEVILLE" at Cork Opera House. |
| <i>Fifth Season</i> 1957 — <i>Spring</i> | "MARITANA" at Palace Theatre, Cork. |
| <i>Sixth Season</i> 1958 — <i>Winter</i> | "FAUST" and "LUCIA di LAMMERMOOR" at Palace Theatre, Cork. |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Cork Grand Opera Group expresses thanks to the following for valuable assistance rendered in various ways :—The Manager and Staff of the Theatre ; the Minister for Defence and Col. Sean Collins-Powell ; Thomas Crosbie & Co. Ltd. ; Grand Parade Salesrooms ; Wm. Egan & Sons ; Joseph Woodward & Sons ; R. A. Paterson ; Mrs. Lehane.

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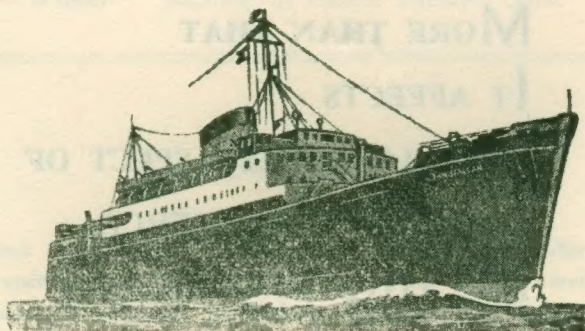
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PALACE THEATRE, CORK

Manager : DERMOT BREEN

Week commencing Monday, October 27th, 1958,

CORK GRAND OPERA GROUP

presents

SEVENTH SEASON OF GRAND OPERA

MARTHA

(Flotow)

and

RIGOLETTO

(Verdi)

SPECIAL NOTICES

- The Management of the Theatre reserves the right to refuse admission.
- Patrons are requested to return to their seats IMMEDIATELY warning bell rings at the close of each interval.
- SMOKING in the auditorium is not permitted.
- The taking of PHOTOGRAPHS during a performance is forbidden.
- Encores are not given in Group productions. Without this rule, it would be difficult to keep the performance to time, and it would cause inconvenience to patrons travelling by late buses or trains.
- The Board of Management of Cork Grand Opera Group reserves the right to make any alteration in the programme rendered necessary by illness or other unavoidable cause.

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Oct. 28th, 30th, Nov. 1st, 1958,
at 8.0 p.m.

CORK **GRAND OPERA** GROUP

presents

RIGOLETTO

An Opera in Four Acts by Giuseppe Verdi.

Founded on Victor Hugo's play "Le roi s'amuse."

FIRST PRODUCED: VENICE, MARCH, 1851.

Characters in order of appearance :

The Duke of Mantua.....KENNETH MacDONALD

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Borsa | } (<i>Courtiers</i>)..... | { RICHARD WOODS |
| Marullo | | { DAVID McINERNEY |
| Count Ceprano | | { KEVIN GILTINAN |

Countess Ceprano.....OLIVE MURPHY

Rigoletto (*the Court Jester*).....WILLIAM DICKIE

Count Monterone.....JACK HARTE

Sparafucile (*an assassin*).....*KENNETH STEVENSON

Gilda (*Rigoletto's daughter*).....PATRICIA O'KEEFFE

Giovanna (*her nurse*).....MAURA HAYES

A Page.....IRENE LOONEY

An Usher.....JOHN BICKERSTAFFE

Maddalena (*Sparafucile's sister*).....JOHANNA PETERS

Courtiers, Ladies, Guards.

ConductorMYER FREDMAN

Opera produced by.....PATRICK MacCLELLAN

(By permission of the Welsh National Opera Coy.)

Choreography.....BETTY LONG

Leader of Orchestra.....KATHLEEN BOWES

* Mr. Stevenson appears by permission of the Generalintendant, Stadtsooper, Bonn.

The Story

**The scene of the Opera is laid in Mantua, in the
sixteenth century.**

ACT I.

The Palace of the Duke of Mantua

The Duke of Mantua, a man of many amours, has seduced the daughter of Count Monterone, who forces his way in on the Duke and his court to claim just reparation for this outrage. Rigoletto, the Duke's court jester, presumes to mock the old Count, who turns upon him and lays a curse upon him and the Duke, who orders his immediate arrest.

INTERVAL

ACT II.

Outside Rigoletto's house

Rigoletto has a daughter, Gilda, who is his most prized possession, and whom he shields from the world with every effort at his command. The courtiers, led by Count Ceprano, whose wife the Duke has been pursuing, has instigated a vendetta against Rigoletto in revenge for the insults that he has heaped upon the noblemen of the court, and has arranged to kidnap the supposed "mistress" of Rigoletto, who is, in fact, his daughter Gilda. The Duke, however, has, in the disguise of a student, been making advances to Gilda for some time, and on this particular evening has gained access to her home by bribing her nurse, Giovanna, and with his ardent wooing has no difficulty in turning the head of the simple girl. Their secret rendezvous is interrupted by Rigoletto, and the Duke departs hurriedly. Shortly afterwards the courtiers, headed by Count Ceprano, Marullo and Borsa, arrive and succeed in abducting Gilda, bound and gagged, whom they take in triumph to the Palace of the Duke. Rigoletto is distracted and attributes this catastrophe to the curse laid upon him by Count Monterone.

INTERVAL

COFFEE WILL BE SERVED

ACT III.

A room in the Duke's Palace

The Duke soliloquises upon the charms of the simple maiden whom he has been pursuing when the courtiers appear to tell him in a hilarious fashion how they have abducted Rigoletto's "mistress" and brought her to the Palace the previous night. The Duke hastens away to further his acquaintanceship with Gilda.

Rigoletto, distraught and pathetically attempting to maintain his role as court jester, ascertains that Gilda is with the Duke and frantically attempts to rescue her, but is cruelly prevented from doing so by the courtiers. Gilda herself appears and confesses to her father that she has encouraged the Duke in his pursuit of her, thinking him to have been a poor student. Rigoletto furiously vows vengeance on his master.

INTERVAL

ACT IV.

A lonely inn by the River Mincio

Rigoletto has resolved to have the Duke exterminated and arranges with Sparafucile, a professional assassin, to accomplish the deed. Sparafucile's sister, Maddalena, has caught the fancy of the Duke, who visits her in the disguise of a swashbuckling soldier. Rigoletto has bargained the Duke's life for twenty pieces of silver but Gilda, overhearing the plot, resolves to save him by sacrificing her own life for his, although he has abandoned her for the temporary fascination of Maddalena. Disguised as a youth she seeks shelter at Sparafucile's inn at the height of a thunderstorm, and at Maddalena's suggestion is stabbed as a substitute for the Duke. At midnight Rigoletto returns to claim the Duke's body as arranged, and is about to throw it into the river when he discovers that the sack contains instead the body of his daughter. Still confessing her undying love for the Duke, she expires in his arms. With her death falls the final blow of Monterone's curse.

Cork GRAND OPERA Group

Chorus Master — Maura Hayes.

Accompanist at Rehearsals — Bernard Geary.

SOPRANOS — Teresa Barry, Celine Browne, Dorothy Hackett, Maura Hayes, Mary Hendrick, Ann Horgan, Mona Kenny, Irene Looney, Maureen McNeill, Rita Manning, Phil Morris, Patricia Motherway, Marjorie Murphy, Mary Murphy, Olive Murphy, Mary Neville, Grace O'Callaghan, Olive O'Connell, Phyllis O'Connell, Kay O'Mahony, Marie O'Regan, Kitty O'Shaughnessy, Claire O'Sullivan, Frances Riordan, Betty Ryan, Mary Walsh.

CONTRALTOS — Edie Bowen, Phyllis Dinan, Kitty Hegarty, Marie Hurley, Frances Keyes, Monica Looby, Mary McInerney, Una Santry, Mary Scott, Anne Scriven, Mona Scriven.

TENORS — Peter Browne, Denis Cullinane, Alfred Cummins, Michael Finn, Con Jefferies, Jack Kelleher, John D. Martin, Cornelius O'Connell, Declan O'Sullivan, Jack O'Sullivan.

BASSES — John Bickerstaffe, Thomas Desmond, John Dwyer, Austin Crowley, Kevin Giltinan, Patrick Gunn, Alec Hill, Stephen Hill, John Lingwood, James Long, David McInerney, Patrick O'Donovan, Andrew Ryan.

DANCERS — Betty Long, Angela Long, Grace Crowley, Jack Kelleher, Austin Crowley, Patrick Gunn.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Stage Director | For Cork Grand Opera Group | Patrick MacClellan |
| Stage Manager | | Michael Scanlan |
| Property Master | | Frank Beechinor |
| Assistants | | E. Murphy, P. O'Brien, P. O'Brien, M. Duggan. |
| Wardrobe Master | | Derry Terry. |
| Assistants | | Tom Eaton, Joe Murphy, Finn Scannell, O. Terry. |
| Wardrobe Mistress | | Mary Murphy |
| Assistants | | Eileen Whyte, Kay Murphy, Pauline Condon, Kathleen Kennedy, Maureen Gilleran, Ann Lemiham. |
| Make-up | | Mary O'Connell, Mary Lynch, Patricia Neenan, Tom Vesey, Frank Kelleher, Denis Harrington. |
| | | |

Costumes...Ging's, Dublin; B. J. Simmons, London; Sadler's Wells, London
Wigs.....Ging's, Dublin; B. J. Simmons, London; Theater der Stadt, Bonn.

Chief Electrician.....Eddie Twohig

Additional Lighting.....Strand Electric Co., Dublin.

Scenery selected from the Palace Theatre Stores.

Additional scenery painted by Frank Sanquest.

Chairman, Cork Grand Opera Group.....D. L. Whyte

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